

W. H. D. Burdwoods Comps

TWENTY-FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

—❧ BOURNE ❧—

Rural Sanitary District,

❧ ❧ FOR THE YEAR 1893, ❧ ❧

BY

JAMES WATSON BURDWOOD,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

Fellow British Inst. Public Health.

Member of the Sanitary Institute,

Member of the British Medical Association, &c., &c.

BOURNE:

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TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Bourne Rural Sanitary District,

For the Year 1893.

BOURNE, FEBY. 1st, 1894.

*To the Chairman and Committee of the Bourne
Rural Sanitary Authority.*

GENTLEMEN,

It will be as well perhaps to refer in the first place to that portion of last year's Report bearing upon the epidemic of Small Pox, which commenced in the Bourne Rural Sanitary District at the end of the year 1892. The disease, as you are well aware, was introduced into the district by the navvies employed on the new line, then being constructed from Saxby to Bourne ; some of the men had been working at Warrington, where Small Pox was prevalent, and evidently were the cause of all the subsequent evil, trouble, and expense that followed their arrival at Castle Bytham. The epidemic continued at Castle Bytham notwithstanding the precautionary steps taken, such as the isolation of the patient, disinfection of the houses, resorting to vaccination and re-vaccination. During the progress of the epidemic it was found necessary to open a temporary Hospital in the village, and the disease was not stamped out till June, 1893. Fuller details will be given later on. The disease also appeared in Bourne, introduced in the same manner as in Castle Bytham by those employed on the new line, and in consequence the Bourne Fever Hospital was opened.

The number of Births has slightly decreased during the year, there being 530 against 534 for the year 1892, showing a decrease of 4. The number of Deaths, as in the previous year, has decreased, there being 260 for the year 1893 against 295 for the preceding year 1892, showing a decrease of 35. The death rate has therefore been reduced to the lowest yet recorded, viz. : 13·5 per 1,000. Though the number, 257, of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year to your Medical Officer appears to be large, yet the mortality has

been very low. Notwithstanding the epidemic of Small Pox and Scarlatina only sixteen deaths have resulted from Zymotic diseases. There have been three deaths from Small Pox—all unvaccinated—five from Scarlatina, three from Diphtheria, three from Membranous Croup, and two from Enteric Fever. There have been five deaths from Whooping-Cough, and three from Diarrhœa. Eleven deaths were returned under the head of Influenza, most of them males over 60 years of age. The number of deaths from pulmonary diseases has decreased, there being only 35 cases recorded in the year 1893 against 57 for the year 1892.

Annexed are the usual Tables showing the number of deaths during the year 1893, classified according to diseases, ages and localities, also a Table of population, births, and of new cases of infectious diseases coming to my knowledge during the year 1893, classified according to diseases, ages, and localities. There is also a Table of Births and Deaths for each quarter of the year. Amongst the deaths recorded are the following:—One man, aged 60, drowned himself in a pond; one man, aged 74, hanged himself; two men, both 77 years of age were killed by falling from a cart; one man, aged 71, from a fall from a ladder; one man, aged 18, accidentally killed by a railway train; one man, aged 65, gored to death by a bull; two men, aged respectively 53 and 46, died from injuries, one to the hand, the other to the spine; and one child, four months old, was suffocated whilst in bed with his mother.

Several cases of Small Pox occurred in the town of Bourne, evidently brought in the first place from Castle Bytham, as already stated. The Fever Hospital was opened. A Medical Officer appointed, a Nurse engaged, and all necessary steps taken for the reception of patients. Eight cases, including one from Morton, and one from Dyke were admitted; two died, both patients were unvaccinated. The expenses of the Hospital amounted to £210. The Hospital having been found very inefficient for the reception of patients, additions costing £75/18/6 were afterwards made, so that if future occasion arises for its being occupied it will be found much more suitable for the treatment of the sick than heretofore. At some future time it may still be found necessary to make better provision for the accommodation of the Nurse, as well as provide a store room. The houses where Small Pox occurred were all properly disinfected. Varicella was also prevalent in the town. There were nine cases in the Workhouse but the disease was soon stamped out; one case of Scarlatina, and one case returned as Rôtheln also occurred in the Workhouse. An epidemic of Scarlet Fever occurred in the Town of Bourne, upwards of 100 cases, and four deaths being reported. All possible precautions were taken, such as isolation, &c. Disinfectants were gratuitously supplied in many instances. Parents were communicated with, to prevent the children who were not ill (of affected families) from attending school. Great difficulty was experienced in

(A)

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1893, in the RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT of BOURNE classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. <i>(Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)</i> <i>(a)</i>	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.							(i)	MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
	At all Ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15. (e)	15 and under 25. (f)	25 and under 65. (g)	65 and up-wards. (h)		1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Group.	FEVERS.					10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12 Measles.	13 Whooping Cough.	14 Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	15 Rheumatic Fever.	16 Ague.	17 Phthisis.	18 Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	19 Heart Disease.	20 Injuries.	21 All Other Diseases.	22 TOTAL.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
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ASLACKBY	55	12		2	4	15	22	Under 5 5 upwds.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															



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(B)

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1893, in the RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF BOURNE classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.												
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1893.			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Chicken Pox.	Cancer.	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.		
									Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.									Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.				
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)																										
ASLACKBY	5509	5633	133	Under 5 5 upwds.	1	2	2					1			6		4													
BOURNE H.	5925	6104	203	Under 5 5 upwds.	2	95	10	1		7					20	8	7													
CORBY	3312	3431	93	Under 5 5 upwds.	1		2								8		2													
DEEPING	3918	4004	101	Under 5 5 upwds.	1	20	5			2					15		5													
				Under 5 5 upwds.																										
				Under 5 5 upwds.																										
BOURNE WORKHOUSE				Under 5 5 upwds.		1									8	9	2													
				Under 5 5 upwds.																										
BOURNE FEVER HOSPITAL Case of Small Pox from Aslackby included.				Under 5 5 upwds.	8													8												
				Under 5 5 upwds.																										
CORBY FEVER HOSPITAL				Under 5 5 upwds.	6													6												
TOTALS	18,664	19,172	530	Under 5 5 upwds.	1	19	3	3		9		1			57	17	20	14												

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—Yes. Since when? October 1st, 1892. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District state where it is situated **Bourne Fever Hospital.**

TABLE C.

BIRTHS.

DISTRICT.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total.
ASLACKBY	29	42	37	25	133
BOURNE	46	47	50	60	203
CORBY	23	20	24	26	93
DEEPING	23	32	23	23	101
Totals ...	121	141	134	134	530

DEATHS.

DISTRICT.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total.
ASLACKBY	12	11	14	18	55
BOURNE	32	33	19	36	120
CORBY	9	6	12	10	37
DEEPING	8	12	10	18	48
Totals ...	61	62	55	82	260

preventing the adult members of the families attacked from attending public places. The schools were subsequently closed, and before being re-opened were thoroughly disinfected. The houses, including two public-houses, where fever had occurred, were also properly disinfected. It is as well to record that Scarlet Fever occurred at a house in the North Street, occupied by T. T. This house contained two bed-rooms upstairs and two rooms on the ground floor. The family consisted of husband, wife, and nine children—of whom three were ill with Scarlet Fever. In addition there were seven male lodgers. Seven cases of Typhoid Fever occurred, one died. The water used by some of the families affected was ascertained to be impure and unfit for use. Thirteen cases of Diphtheria occurred, three died. In one fatal case of Membranous Croup, occurring at the house occupied by T. B. C., it was ascertained that the water used for domestic purposes contained decomposed organic matter, and was unfit for use. The well from which the water was obtained was therefore ordered to be cleaned out. This was done.

Several cases of overcrowding were reported. One at a house in the Eastgate belonging to the Marquis of Exeter and occupied by R. S., whose son-in-law at the time of my visit was ill with Low Fever. A second case occurred at a house in the Austerby consisting of a living and a bed-room, both on the ground floor. In the bed-room F. J., the tenant, his wife and five children slept. A third case occurred at a house in the Eastgate occupied by T. R. This house had only two rooms, one on the ground floor and a bed-room above. Two families resided in this house, T. R., his wife and one child, and F. F. with his wife and two children. All the above-named were remedied.

The drainage of a house in the North Street was defective and a great nuisance. The Sanitary Authority therefore had a new sewer, 172 yards in length, constructed, costing £28, to remedy the evil.

Several complaints were made as to the foul condition of the watercourse between the "Mason's Arms" and the Mill, near the Railway Station. This was cleaned out and the nuisance remedied.

Many complaints were made in reference to the deficient water supply of West Street, South Street, and Star Lane. This matter has been repeatedly reported to your Authority. In my opinion this serious defect will not be properly remedied until the Local Authority takes into its own hands the water supply of the town of Bourne.

Two cases of Small Pox occurred in the village of Little Bytham. The patients were removed to the temporary Fever Hospital at Castle Bytham. A great nuisance existed in this village on premises belonging to Mrs. T. At the time of inspection there were several heaps of manure and filth which were ordered to be removed, as there was great danger in rainy weather of the well becoming polluted. Some of the tenants kept a large number of fowls in a very filthy condition. J. P. the occupant of one of the houses kept pigs in contravention of

an order made by the Sanitary Authority that pigs should not be kept on the above-named premises.

The epidemic of Small Pox at Castle Bytham referred to at the commencement of this Report continued, and as several fresh cases and one death occurred, that of a person unvaccinated, the Sanitary Authority ordered a temporary Hospital to be constructed. This was done as quickly as possible and properly furnished. A Medical Officer was appointed and Nursing arrangements made. The expenses of this Hospital amounted to £171/9/11. Six cases, including two from Little Bytham, were treated in this Hospital, all recovered. All the houses where Small Pox occurred were properly disinfected, and in several instances the clothes and linen were burnt. The School was closed during the epidemic. It is as well to remind your Committee that the epidemic of Small Pox lasted for nearly the whole of the first half of the past year, and many visits were made both by myself and the Inspector during that time, in fact no trouble was spared in coping with the outbreak.

In Corby a new sewer 68 yards in length was constructed costing £6/4/8.

One case of Small Pox occurred in the village of Morton, at a house occupied by W. H. The patient was removed to the Bourne Fever Hospital. H.'s house was subsequently fumigated. One case of Diphtheria occurred in this village, at a house occupied by W. P., whose daughter fell ill with the disease. The water used by the occupants of this house was ascertained to be good and fit for use. The Beck running in front of this house was in a filthy state, and required cleaning out; this was done, but it should be covered in similarly to the other part of the Beck.

The Beck in the village of Aslackby was in a foul state, and dangerous to the public health. The Sanitary Authority ordered it to be thoroughly cleansed. This was done and the nuisance remedied.

The Beck at Horbling became landed up and a nuisance. The Sanitary Authority ordered this to be remedied, which was done. A new sewer 45 yards in length was constructed costing £7/13/5.

One case of Scarlet Fever occurred in the village of Toft; one in the village of Lound; one in the village of Edenham; and one in the village of Elsthorpe. The un-affected children of the families where Scarlet Fever existed were ordered not to attend school, and the usual precautions were taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Two or three cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in the village of Thurlby. One case, imported from Stamford, was that of the daughter of H. J., Schoolmaster to the Thurlby Board School. I suggested that either a deputy should be appointed, or that he should reside away from his house for a few weeks. The latter plan was adopted. The School was closed for a week for disinfecting

purposes. The case was isolated and prompt steps taken to prevent the spread of the disease with the result that no other case occurred.

One case of overcrowding occurred in this village at a house occupied by G. D. The house, an old and dilapidated building, contained only two bedrooms, and was occupied by D., his wife and five children, besides a married daughter and her baby; the wife's mother and a lodger, eleven persons in all. A notice was served upon the tenant, and the married daughter and her infant, the wife's mother and the lodger left, and the overcrowding was remedied. The water supply was very deficient in this village, about thirty houses in the centre having no proper water supply. It was suggested that an artesian well should be made to supply the above houses, and R. P. the owner of part of the property was communicated with, who consented to bore and supply his cottages with water.

A case of Small Pox was reported as having occurred at Northorpe, a village adjoining Thurlby, at a house occupied by W. R. R. had been working on the railway and no doubt contracted the disease from others working there. The case was well isolated and every precaution taken to prevent the spread of the disease with the result that no other case occurred.

Several cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in the village of Baston. The usual precautions were taken and the houses subsequently disinfected. The School was closed, and before being re-opened was properly disinfected.

One case of overcrowding occurred in this village at a house occupied by E. G. The house consisted of only two small rooms, a living and a bed-room both on the ground floor. In the bed-room G. his wife and four children slept. The cottage was in a very filthy condition; the children were also dirty and neglected, and as G. after due notice did not remedy the nuisance, he was summoned before the Magistrates and fined 10/- and costs.

One case of Scarlet Fever occurred at the village of Langtoft. The house was properly fumigated and lime-washed. One case of Diphtheria also occurred in this village at a house occupied by W. B. The Beck in front of this house was in an offensive condition. This was remedied. A sample of water used for domestic purposes was submitted to analysis and found to be good.

One case of Scarlet Fever occurred in the town of Market Deeping. The patient was well isolated, and precautions taken to prevent the spread of the disease. No other case resulted. One case of Diphtheria occurred. It was an imported case from Grimsby. The usual instructions were given. No other case occurred. Two cases of Typhoid Fever occurred in this town, one at a house occupied by S. B. The water used by the occupants of this house

was ascertained to be good and fit for use. The second case at a house occupied by H. H. H's wife had been away in London nursing a son ill with Typhoid Fever, she returned home and after a short illness died. H. kept a registered Dairy and on his wife's illness the milk, &c., was removed to another house and the business carried on there.

One case of overcrowding occurred at a house occupied by J. P., and containing only two bed-rooms in which P., his wife, four sons and two daughters slept. The premises were in a filthy condition. The water used for domestic purposes was quite unfit for use. This was remedied.

The Market Deeping Burial Board being desirous of enlarging thcir Burial Ground, I went over and inspected the piece of ground selected. The ground is high and dry and could be easily drained ; it is situated some distance from any well, and in my opinion it was suitable for the purpose required, and there could be no objection to its being used as a Burial Ground.

The River Welland in Deeping St. James having become foul and a public nuisance, that portion between the Locks and Waterton Hall was cleaned out at a cost of £20 17s. 1d. Another portion lower down between the Cross and the Outgang was also complained of. Several members of the Sanitary Committee inspected this portion, and as it was not considered in a state dangerous to the public health it was decided not to clean out this part of the river at present.

In conclusion there is some cause for congratulation as in the face of a year of the greatest drought known for more than one decade, the district with the exception of the town of Bourne has been almost entirely free from infectious disease. One would naturally ask how is it then that Bourne with its bountiful natural supply of pure water should be so unhealthy. No doubt in my mind exists that it is due in a great measure to the Water Company, providing such an inadequate supply that many persons had recourse to water obtained from suspicious places ; this is borne out by the fact that at several houses where Enteric Fever occurred, the occupants used the river water for domestic purposes ; this water is well known to be often polluted and quite unfit for use.

The evil referred to has also been aggravated by the fact that many persons live in old, dilapidated, unventilated, and undrained houses. Cottage Sanitation is of vast importance to the community at large, as houses unfit for habitation are both the hotbeds and disseminators of disease. The Public Health Act should be strictly enforced so as to put an end to this lamentable state of things.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. WATSON BURDWOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE

Inspector of Nuisances.

Bourne, Feb. 15th, 1894.

*To the Chairman and Committee, Rural Sanitary
Authority, Bourne Union.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my Twenty-first Annual Report, showing the amount of work done under your authority during the year, 1893.

332 Ordinary Visits and Inspections made.

285 Yards of New Sewers laid with Gullies, &c., at a cost of £41/18/6.

Additions to the Infectious Hospital at Bourne, at a cost of £75/18/6.

72 Houses were Limewashed or Fumigated after Infectious Disease, including 25 cases of Small Pox, and in each case were provided with disinfectants.

7 Cases of Over-crowding were brought under the notice of the Authority. One person was summoned and convicted.

30 New Gully Traps were fixed.

15 New Drains laid.

10 New Privies and Water Closets constructed.

36 Defective Privies remedied and Drains put in order.

114 Nuisances removed.

10 Offensive Ditches and Watercourses cleaned out, including a portion of the River Welland at Deeping St James, the latter costing £20/17/1.

8 Samples of Water were taken for Analysis.

6 Wells and Cisterns cleaned out, and their defects remedied.

- 6 Offensive Pig Sties and Privies removed.
- 13 New Cesspools and Ashpits built.
- 16 Houses Repaired or Limewashed.
- 7 Houses shut up as unfit for habitation.
- 3 Notices served demanding a supply of water.
- 32 New Houses Inspected prior to occupation and certificates given.
- 6 Notices and Reports to the Medical Officer of Health.
- 63 Formal Notices were served.
- 157 Letters were written on the business of the office.
- 45 Visits were made to Registered Dairies and Cow Sheds within the district, all of which have been Limewashed, and kept in a cleanly state.

The Common Lodging Houses, Slaughter Houses, and Marine Store Dealers, have received periodical visits.

In addition to the above a great deal of time was taken up in the first half of the year in consequence of an epidemic of Small Pox at Bourne and Castle Bytham; also in preparing Plans and Specifications for Drainage Works, and the additions to the Infectious Hospital at Bourne, and in superintending the Works.

I remain,
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. VINTER, Inspector of Nuisances.



